

Magi No.

DOE \_\_\_yes \_\_\_no

# Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

## 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Frank Fairbanks House

## 2. Location

street &amp; number Fairbank Road \_\_\_ not for publication

city, town Fairbank \_\_\_ vicinity of congressional district Fifth

state MD county Talbot

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	___ occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
___ site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	___ in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	___ no	___ military	___ other:

## 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Bernard and Fannie E. Osterman

street &amp; number 9408 Underwood St. telephone no.:

city, town Seabrook state and zip code MD 20801

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Talbot County Clerk of Court liber 524

street &amp; number Talbot County Courthouse folio 458

city, town Easton state MD

## 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date \_\_\_ federal \_\_\_ state \_\_\_ county \_\_\_ local

pository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

Survey No. T-827

Condition  
☐ excellent  
☒ good  
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

Check one  
☐ unaltered  
☒ altered

Check one  
☒ original site  
☐ moved      date of move \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Frank Fairbanks house is located on the east side of Fairbank Road in the village of Fairbank on Tilghman Island, Talbot County, Maryland. The house is removed from the main road and access to the house is by a private drive from the Fairbank Road. The house faces north and the principal gable is oriented on an east/west axis.

Completed as it currently appears between 1890-1900, this five bay, two-story, frame structure may include remnants of an 1877 structure. The house is mounted on a cinderblock foundation, and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The exterior is clad in asbestos shingles which cover the original yellow weatherboards.

The north (main) facade has a central door flanked by a pair of two-over-two sash windows. The windows on the eastern bays have wide surrounds, while the windows on the western bays have narrow surrounds and are inset at a lower point in the wall. A gable roofed portico shelters the door. While the supports for this portico are new, the roof and tongue in groove platform are original. The second story has five two-over-two sash windows. The three western bay windows have narrow surrounds, while the two eastern bays have wide surrounds. The house has cornerboards and a boxed cornice.

The east elevation has a one-story, gable roof addition across the first floor. There are a pair of two-over-two sash windows with wide surrounds on the second floor. An interior brick chimney sits at the east gable end which has shallow cornice returns.

The first-story of the five bay south (rear) elevation has a central door flanked by two-over-two sash windows. A portico appears to have been in place above this door at one time. The second-story has five two-over-two sash windows.

The two bay west elevation has two-over-two sash windows on the first and second floors with narrow surrounds. A centrally placed interior chimney rises above this west gable.

## 8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates	Builder/Architect
check: Applicable Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D	
and/or	
Applicable Exception: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G	
Level of Significance: <input type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> state <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> local	

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Edward Fairbanks, after whom the village of Fairbanks is named, purchased sixty acres of land from James Seth in 1848. At that time the land was considered the southern point of Hickory Ridge Farm. The Frank Fairbanks house is said to include part of the original Edward Fairbanks home. While the 1858 Talbot County Map shows E. Fairbanks as the owner of this property, the only house indicated sits at the southern tip of the property. The 1877 Dillworth map shows a J. Fairbanks home in approximately the same location as the Frank Fairbanks house today.

According to Joyce Fairbanks, Antoinette Covington had studied the house and suggested that the kitchen was the oldest section. She noted that as the family grew they added a living room, until finally the house was split in half and a center section was added. The separate halves of the building are apparent when one examines the windows of the north and south elevations. The three western bays of the house have narrow window surrounds which are not even with the two wide surround windows of the eastern bay.

In the 1930s-1940s, J. Frank Fairbanks, a representative to the state legislature, lived in the house. Although the house is unoccupied today, it remains a neighborhood landmark.

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## PS-2746

Frank Fairbanks House description continued.

The interior central hall is flanked on the east and west ends by a single room. The original mantles appear to be in place on the first floor. The north yard of the house is planted with boxwood.

T-827  
Frank Fairbanks House  
Tilghman Island Quadrangle





Scene at Fairbank, Md.

FRANK FAIRBANKS HOUSE T-827

FAIRBANK, TILGHMAN ISLAND, TALBOT COUNTY,  
MD.

NORTHWEST ELEVATION

BILL BODENSTEIN, PHOTOGRAPHER.

8/90





T-827

FRANK FAIRBANKS HOUSE

TILGHMAN ISLAND, TALBOT COUNTY, MD.

NORTHEAST ELEVATION

E. HUGHES, PHOTO.

8/1/70